



ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE SUCCESSFULLY UPGRADED  
THEIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FROM ISO 9001 TO  
AS9100 AND/OR FROM AS9100B TO AS9100C – CHALLENGES  
AND BEST PRACTICES

# NASA – Supply Chain 2012

**QUAL-TECH, INC.**

Certified as a Women's Business Enterprise by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council



## ● Challenges:

- From ISO 9001 to AS9100 – understanding the requirements and applying the standard effectively to the organization. Organizations that were ISO certified, with a minimal amount of space (or aviation and defense) experience appear to have had greater difficulty due to a possible lack of awareness and/or understanding of industry requirements.
- The assumption that just because we are ISO we almost meet all the AS9100 requirements.
- Validation from other sources outside the organization that they are ready.

## ⦿ Challenges cont.:

- The increased awareness and application of process based auditing defined in AS9101D. For many organizations, there is confusion regarding the new forms i.e process emphasis – including special processes, those outsourced, requirement to define their top customers, their percentage of business, and especially the specific requirements that must be met.

## ⦿ Challenges cont.:

- AS9100B to AS9100C – awareness and understanding that the AS9101D standard defines additional criteria for the auditor beyond just assessing for conformity to the AS9100C standard.
- The emphasis is organizational leadership, business performance, process effectiveness, and identifying and controlling potential risks to the organization and especially the customer.

## ⦿ Challenges cont.:

- Management not being committed to the upgrade/transition resulting in documentation being revised but the Aerospace Quality Management System (AQMS) is not fully implemented and determined to be ineffective.
- Preparation time for upgrade/transition in addition to current work load.
- Lack of resources causing delays or an incomplete AQMS implementation by scheduled Stage I & II audit date.

## ◎ Best Practices:

- Training addressing the new standard(s) – AS9100C and AS9101D i.e. key personnel and top management.
- Fully involved management team from the beginning of the transition.
- Utilizing industry resources, or personal network of experienced personnel to answer questions and/or assist.

## ◎ Best Practices cont.:

- Scheduling early and treating transition/ implementation as a “Project”.
- Defining tasks, resources, schedules, constraints and managing to meet the audit date.
- When a subsidiary or part of a larger organization, utilizing best practices/lessons learned if facility has completed transition.
- Conversations with stakeholders/customers that have already been successful in certification.

## ◎ Best Practices cont.:

- Upfront communications with selected Certification Body (CB) about some of the unique characteristics/ requirements of the organizations AQMS.
- Requirement flowed to selected CB on needs related to Third Party Auditor.
- Ensuring that all employees, including sub-contract workers that could be affected by the audit are trained.

LET QUAL-TECH, INC. HELP YOU FIND YOUR  
BUSINESS SOLUTION!

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